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Trump May Have Found Paths to Save Coal and Hobble Clean Energy

By Joe Ryan, Bloomberg • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:51:15

President Donald Trump may soon have a chance to prove wrong the notion that economics will kill the U.S. coal industry and keep clean energy thriving. Two initiatives pending in Washington — one to prop up large traditional power plants and a second to impose tariffs on solar panels — could let Trump upend wholesale electricity markets and tip the advantage away from renewables. [[read more ...](#)]

How DOE's baseload power rule 'would blow the market up'

By Gavin Bade, Utility Dive • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:52:05

The Department of Energy's proposed rulemaking to cover the costs of baseload coal and nuclear generators could lead to an unraveling of wholesale power markets if adopted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, energy regulators and industry analysts told Utility Dive. "This would blow the market up," former FERC Chairman Jon Wellinghoff, a Democrat appointed to the commission by President Obama in 2010, told Utility Dive. "And you can quote me on that." [[read more ...](#)]

Silverstein: If I'd written the DOE grid study recommendations

By Alison Silverstein, Utility Dive • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:52:36

Between late May and early July 2017, I organized the research and drafted the bulk of the technical portions of the DOE "Staff Report." DOE staff and management modified the technical study draft and prepared the summary of findings (Section 2) and recommendations (Sections 7 and 8). But that summary and recommendations missed some important points about reliability and resilience that are worth keeping in mind as stakeholders and policy-makers consider next steps. [[read more ...](#)]

Gas, renewable groups oppose U.S. DOE's call to support

nuclear, coal

By Timothy Gardner, Reuters • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:51:43

The main U.S. oil and gas lobbying group joined forces with 10 other energy industry groups on Monday to oppose a call by the U.S. energy secretary for federal regulators to offer incentives for struggling nuclear and coal power plants. Energy Secretary Rick Perry on Friday called on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to issue a rule within 60 days to give many coal and nuclear plants incentives for providing reliable electricity to the nation's grid.

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Suniva, SolarWorld revise tariff demands to stop 'bleeding'

Christa Marshall, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:53:15

Suniva and SolarWorld Americas are revising their request for trade barriers ahead of a critical hearing tomorrow in a dispute that is headed to President Trump and could upend the U.S. solar industry. In briefs filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission, the companies are now calling for a tariff of 25 cents per watt on photovoltaic cells, about 37 percent lower than an earlier request of 40 cents. [[read more ...](#)]

Split U.S. Solar Industry to Debate Tariffs at Hearing

By Nichola Groom, Reuters • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:53:00

A fractured U.S. solar industry will present differing proposals on Tuesday to a government commission considering measures to prop up domestic solar panel makers, who say cheap imports have left them on the verge of collapse. The closely-watched trade case before the U.S. International Trade Commission has pitted the nation's solar installers and developers against two struggling domestic panel makers. Installers rely on cheap panels to build projects that are cost competitive with natural gas and coal plants. [[read more ...](#)]

Earlier 2020 California primary could boost climate debate, green issues

Anne C. Mulkern, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2017-10-03 06:53:31

California now would hold its primary after Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina. It would be held on "Super Tuesday," March 3, along with six other states, including Virginia. California's decision to move its primary elections to March could push climate and other environmental issues onto the national stage, giving those a prominence not seen in past presidential campaigns, political experts said. The schedule switch signed into law last week by Gov. Jerry Brown (D) comes as a bid by the nation's most populous state to play a bigger role in picking the president. Last year California held its primary in June. [[read more ...](#)]

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